

Senate Bill 463

By: Senators Pearson of the 51st, Tolleson of the 20th, Murphy of the 27th, Schaefer of the 50th and Rogers of the 21st

AS PASSED

AN ACT

To amend Chapter 3 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county boards of health, so as to provide certain conditions for use of residential gray water; to provide for regulations; to provide for penalties; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 3 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county boards of health, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

"31-3-5.2.

(a) As used in this Code section, the term 'gray water' means waste water discharged from residential lavatories, bathtubs, showers, clothes washers, and laundry trays.

(b) Private residential direct reuse of gray water shall be lawful if the following conditions are met:

(1) Gray water originating from the residence shall be used and contained within the property boundary for household gardening, composting, lawn watering, or landscape irrigation;

(2) Gray water shall not be used for irrigation of food plants;

(3) The gray water shall not contain hazardous chemicals derived from activities such as cleaning car parts, washing greasy or oily rags, or disposing of waste solutions from home photo labs or similar hobbyist or home occupational activities;

(4) The application of gray water shall be managed to minimize standing water on the surface;

(5) The application of gray water shall be outside of a floodway;

(6) The gray water shall not contain water used to wash diapers or similarly soiled or infectious garments unless the gray water is disinfected before irrigation; and

(7) The gray water shall be applied only by hand watering using garden watering cans or similar hand-held containers.

(c) County boards of health shall adopt the provisions of subsection (b) of this Code section by regulation. Local governing bodies shall be authorized to punish violations of said regulations as local ordinance violations, provided that the penalty for each such violation shall not exceed a \$100.00 fine."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.